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## MEETING MINUTES

**Members Present:** Amy Aldana, Scott Andrews, Aurora Chavez, Susie Doss, Christina Duran, Albert Figueroa, Nancy Hart, Lorraine Hernandez Saint, Cindy Jensen, Jeff Kraus, Gurumantra Khalsa, Wil Lopez, Karin Roberts, Taffi Romero, Justin Scott-Coe, Nancy Sturmer, and Paul Van Doren.

**Members Absent:** Melvin Ryman

**Mayor/Council Members:** Council Member Nancy Hart

**Guests:** Nancy Castillo, Nancy Larsen, Norm Gritton, Jacob Hernandez, Sharon Mateja, Erin Snyder

**Staff:** Eva Yakutis, Don Smith, Hilda Gonzalez, and Lori Gjelhau, Housing & Neighborhoods Division.

**1. Call to Order/Introductions –**

Chairperson Romero called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes for September 8, 2008 –**

(Scott-Coe/Chavez/carried)

**3. Visiting Council Members/Mayor’s Office –**

- a. Wards 6 and 7, Council Member Nancy Hart reported.
- b. Ward 2, Hilda Gonzalez reported on behalf Council Member Andy Melendrez.

**4. RNP Officer Elections –**

- Chair – Taffi Romero
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair – Albert Figueroa
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – Christina Duran

(Lopez/Khalsa/carried)

**5. Selection of the four neighborhoods under Appendix C of the City General Plan 2025 –**

Subcommittee met prior to Board meeting to discuss recommendations for Neighborhood Plans to be developed over the next two years. Gurumantra reported the following subcommittee recommendations:

- 2009 Arlanza and La Sierra Hills/La Sierra Acres
- 2010 Magnolia Center and Northside

In addition, the subcommittee recommends the following:

- An advisory board should be established for on-going community feedback and monitoring of each Neighborhood Plan after they are adopted.
- A city staff person should be designated as a “project manager” to coordinate plan implementation.

(Khalsa/Kraus/carried)

## **6. Housing and Neighborhoods Report –**

- a. Council/Redevelopment Agency Reports – Eva reported.
- b. City Employee Award Program – Wil suggested establishing a recognition program for city staff providing neighborhood services. Taffi and Susie volunteered to assist Eva and Wil to put this program together. Proposed kick-off of program is December. Further discussions on this program will be brought up at the next RNP meeting.
- c. Attendance Report – Don reminded RNP members of the attendance rules.
- d. New Neighborhood – Taffi reported.
- e. Neighborhood Leadership Academy – Don reported.

Don reported on:

- Town Hall Foreclosure meetings
- CDBG Community Meetings coming up
- Project Homeless Connect
- RNP Brochures
- Long Beach Neighborhood Conference, October 25, 2008
- Mailing of RNP Agenda and Minutes will be limited to Board members and special requests. Both will be posted on Neighborhoods web page at least one week ahead of the scheduled monthly meetings.
- October 1<sup>st</sup> SCNPN quarterly meeting. Justin, Susie, Aurora and Angie and Hilda attended.

## **7. Subcommittee Reports – The Subcommittee List for 2008-2009 was distributed.**

- a) Bylaws Subcommittee – No meeting.
- b) Non-profit Subcommittee Report – No meeting. Eva to set up meeting.
- c) Neighborhood Conference Subcommittee – None.
- d) Marketing Subcommittee –
  - They have not met but Cindy contacted Riverside Magazine and asked them to put an article in their magazine about RNP, to which they agreed. They commented that RNP is exactly the kind of thing they need to put in their magazine. The marketing subcommittee needs to write an article.
- e) Neighborhood Matching Grant Subcommittee – Taffi reported:
  - Downtown Area Neighborhood Alliance – They applied for \$750.00 to get their website up and running. \$750.00 approved. (moved/second/carried)
- f) Neighborhood Awards Subcommittee – Eva suggested that City Employee Award Program be added to this subcommittee.

## **8. RNP board member reports/activities/neighborhood assistance –**

- Nancy attended MNO at Bryant Elementary.
- Albert talked about creating business expos to help other businesses out.
- Taffi reported on Riverwalk, neighborhood watch, RRR, Neighbor to Neighbor.
- Scott wants to turn RNP website into a portal.
- Wil reported on:
  - Coco restaurant's complaints about INS building
  - Problems on Bolton and California, fatal car accident. Wants traffic department to do something about that area.
- Cindy Jensen spoke about Assistance League of Riverside.

## **9. Concerns from Visiting Neighbors –**

- Nancy Castillo from RPD indicated that she and the other PSR's would be willing to attend monthly RNP meetings. Email: [ncast@riversideca.gov](mailto:ncast@riversideca.gov)
- Nancy Larsen on behalf of Evergreen Historic Cemetery, event on 11/1/08. Email: [larsenick1@earthlink.net](mailto:larsenick1@earthlink.net)
- Jacob Hernandez reported on various events at Villegas Park.
- Norm Gritton – (same issues as last month's meeting.)
- Sharon Mateja spoke on behalf of Residents for Responsible Representation.

- Erin Snyder spoke on behalf of Northside Improvement Association.

**10. Future Agenda Items –**

- a. November –
  - Neighborhood Caucus
- b. December –
  - Mayor's Office to discuss Neighborhood Governance Proposal

**11. Next Meeting: November 3, 2008 – Mayor's Ceremonial Room**

**12. Adjournment – 8:29 p.m.**